

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q96751

Tetsuya CHIKATSUNE, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/591,249

Group Art Unit: 1621

Confirmation No.: 8302

Examiner: Marialouisa Lao

Filed: August 31, 2006

For: METHOD FOR EXTRACTING SLURRY

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after either a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), but before payment of the Issue Fee, and therefore the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is being remitted, and a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e).

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98
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foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of at least that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office. Applicants note that JP-A-11-128612 cited in the communication was submitted in an IDS to the USPTO on June 13, 2007, and therefore is not being submitted again.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations: The submission of an English language abstract for JP-A-10-216661 constitutes a concise statement of relevance of JP-A-10-216661.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: May 6, 2008